

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 10, 13, 14, 16-22, 25, and 26 as shown below:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A hose control system comprising:
 - a flow controller including an inlet, an outlet, a fluid flow path defined between the inlet and outlet, and an electrically actuated valve positioned to selectively close the fluid flow path;
 - a hose reel device in fluid communication with the outlet of the flow controller, the hose reel device comprising a rotatable reel onto which a hose can be spooled, and an electrical motor connected to rotate the reel;
 - ~~a housing containing said flow controller and said hose reel device;~~
 - electronic components in communication with said valve and said motor, the electronic components comprising:
 - a wireless receiver configured to receive wireless command signals for controlling the valve and the motor, the wireless receiver being capable of receiving the wireless signals only when the wireless receiver is in a powered state, the electronic components configured to convey electrical power to drive the valve and the motor, and
 - a power control unit configured to repeatedly switch the wireless receiver between powered and unpowered states in a cycle; and
 - a remote control comprising manual controls and a wireless transmitter, the wireless transmitter configured to transmit command signals to the wireless receiver for controlling the valve and the motor, the manual controls connected to the wireless transmitter to permit control of the wireless transmitter, ~~wherein the remote control is configured to command the motor to both wind and unwind the hose about the reel.~~
2. **(Original)** The hose control system of Claim 1, wherein the wireless receiver is integrated with the flow controller.
3. **(Original)** The hose control system of Claim 1, wherein the electronic components include integrated circuit (IC) chips.

4. **(Original)** The hose control system of Claim 1, wherein the wireless receiver is a radio frequency (RF) receiver.

5. **(Original)** The hose control system of Claim 1, wherein the electronic components further comprise an electronic logic unit configured to receive the wireless command signals from the wireless receiver and process said command signals to control the valve and the motor.

6. **(Original)** The hose control system of Claim 5, wherein the logic unit comprises an IC decoder unit.

7. **(Original)** The hose control system of Claim 1, wherein the electronic components are configured to position the valve at any of a plurality of positions between a completely closed position in which the fluid flow path is completely closed and a completely open position in which the fluid flow path is completely open.

8. **(Original)** The hose control system of Claim 1, wherein the inlet of the flow controller is configured to mate with an outlet of a water faucet, the outlet being configured to mate with a hose.

9. **(Original)** The hose control system of Claim 1, wherein the inlet and the outlet of the flow controller are configured to mate with ends of hose sections.

10. **(Currently amended)** The hose control system of Claim 1, further comprising a water hose having a proximal end in fluid connection with the outlet of the flow controller, the remote control being mounted proximate a distal end of the hose.

11. **(Cancelled)**

12. **(Original)** The hose control system of Claim 1, wherein the manual controls of the remote control comprise one or more motor controls for transmitting command signals to the wireless receiver for controlling the motor, and one or more valve controls for transmitting command signals to the wireless receiver for controlling the valve.

13. **(Currently Amended)** A hose control system, comprising:

a flow controller having an inlet, an outlet, a fluid flow path defined between the inlet and outlet, and an electrically actuated valve positioned to selectively close the fluid flow path;

a rotatable hose reel onto which a hose can be spooled;

an electrically controllable motor connected to rotate the reel;
electronic components in communication with said valve and said motor, wherein
said electronic components comprise:

a wireless receiver being capable of receiving the wireless signals only
when the wireless receiver is in a powered state, and

a power control unit configured to repeatedly switch the wireless receiver
between powered and unpowered states in a cycle; and

a remote control configured to transmit a wireless command signal to the wireless
receiver ~~electronic components~~ for controlling the motor and opening and closing the
valve, wherein the remote control is configured so that a single command from the remote
control both moves the valve to close the fluid flow path and operates the motor to
rewind the reel onto which a hose can be spooled.

14. **(Currently Amended)** A hose control system, comprising:

a flow controller having an inlet, an outlet, a fluid flow path defined between the
inlet and outlet, and a valve positioned to selectively close the fluid flow path, the inlet
being configured to mate with a residential water faucet, the outlet being configured to
mate with a water hose;

a rotatable hose reel onto which a hose can be spooled;

~~a housing containing said flow controller and said hose reel;~~

a motor connected to rotate the reel;

a wireless receiver configured to receive wireless command signals for controlling
the valve and the motor, the receiver being capable of receiving the wireless signals only
when the wireless receiver is in a powered state;

a power control unit configured to repeatedly switch the wireless receiver between
powered and unpowered states in a cycle; and

a remote control configured to transmit wireless command signals to the wireless
receiver for controlling the valve and the motor, ~~wherein the remote control is configured~~
~~to command the motor to both wind and unwind the hose about the reel.~~

15. **(Previously presented)** A power savings system comprising:

a wireless receiver configured to receive wireless signals from a remote control for controlling an electrical motor driving rotation of a hose reel and an electrically actuated valve controlling a fluid flow through a hose system, the wireless receiver being capable of receiving the wireless signals only when the wireless receiver is in a powered state;

a power control unit configured to repeatedly switch the wireless receiver between powered and unpowered states in a cycle; and

a remote control configured to send the wireless signals.

16. (Currently amended) The hose control power-savings system of Claim 1[[15]], wherein the power control unit keeps the wireless receiver in its powered state between about 2-20% of the time of the cycle.

17. (Currently amended) The hose control power-savings system of Claim 16, wherein the power control unit keeps the wireless receiver in its powered state between about 3-10% of the time of the cycle.

18. (Currently amended) The hose control power-savings system of Claim 1[[15]], wherein the wireless receiver comprises a detection unit configured to detect and receive wireless command signals and an electronic logic unit configured to receive the command signals from the detection unit, the logic unit further configured to process said command signals to control at least one of the motor and the valve, wherein the power control unit is configured to keep the logic unit in an unpowered state until the wireless receiver receives a wireless signal.

19. (Currently amended) The hose control power-savings system of Claim 1[[15]], wherein the power control unit comprises an operational amplifier.

20. (Currently amended) The hose control power-savings system of Claim 1[[15]], wherein the wireless receiver comprises a radio frequency (RF) receiver.

21. (Currently amended) The hose control power-savings system of Claim 1[[15]], wherein the power control unit is configured to keep the wireless receiver in its unpowered state for no more than a set time period during each cycle, and wherein the system further comprising a remote control configured to transmit wireless command signals for controlling at least one of the motor and the valve, the remote control is configured so that each signal is transmitted for a duration at least as long as said set time period.

22. (Currently Amended) A power savings system comprising:

a wireless receiver configured to receive wireless signals for controlling an electrical motor driving rotation of a hose reel and an electrically actuated valve controlling a fluid flow through a hose system, the wireless receiver being capable of receiving the wireless signals only when the wireless receiver is in a powered state;

~~a housing containing said hose reel and said electrically actuated valve;~~

a power control unit configured to reduce power consumption by applying an initial voltage to initiate movement of a mechanical device and then reducing the voltage to the mechanical device after the mechanical device begins moving and before the mechanical device is intended to stop, wherein the electrical motor is configured to drive the rotation of the hose reel in a first direction and in a second, opposite, direction, wherein the mechanical device is one of the valve and the motor.

23. (Original) The power saving system of Claim 22, wherein the mechanical device is the valve.

24. (Original) The power saving system of Claim 22, wherein the mechanical device is the motor.

25. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

repeatedly switching a wireless receiver between powered and unpowered states in a cycle, the wireless receiver configured to receive wireless signals from a remote control, wherein the wireless receiver is capable of receiving the wireless signals only when the wireless receiver is in its powered state, and in response to the wireless receiver receiving a wireless signal from the remote control while the wireless receiver is in its powered state, ceasing to switch the wireless receiver to its unpowered state;

receiving, via the wireless receiver, a first wireless valve command signal for opening an electrically actuated valve, the valve positioned to selectively close a fluid flow path through a hose system;

receiving a second wireless valve command signal for closing the valve;

positioning the valve in response to the wireless valve command signal;

receiving a first wireless reel command signal for controlling an electrical motor connected to rotate a reel onto which a hose can be spooled, ~~wherein said reel and said valve are located within a common housing;~~

activating the motor in response to the wireless reel command signal to rotate the reel in a first direction;

receiving a second wireless reel command signal for controlling the electrical motor; and

activating the motor in response to the second wireless reel command signal to rotate the reel in a second direction opposite the first direction.

26. **(Currently Amended)** A method comprising:

repeatedly switching a wireless receiver between powered and unpowered states in a cycle, the wireless receiver configured to receive wireless signals from a remote control, wherein the wireless receiver is capable of receiving the wireless signals only when the wireless receiver is in its powered state,

transmitting a wireless command signal from a remote control to [[a]]the wireless receiver, and in response to the wireless receiver receiving the wireless command signal from the remote control while the wireless receiver is in its powered state, ceasing to switch the wireless receiver to its unpowered state;

closing a valve to prevent fluid flow through a hose system in accordance with said wireless command signal; and

rewinding a hose reel device in accordance with said wireless command signal.

27. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 26, wherein closing a valve comprises closing an electrically actuated valve, and wherein rewinding a hose reel device comprises controlling an electric motor.

28. **(Previously presented)** A method of conserving power in the detection of a wireless signal from a remote transmitter, comprising:

repeatedly switching a wireless receiver between powered and unpowered states in a cycle, the wireless receiver configured to receive wireless signals from a remote control for controlling an electrical motor driving rotation of a hose reel and an electrically actuated valve controlling a fluid flow through a hose system, the wireless

receiver being capable of receiving the wireless signals only when the wireless receiver is in its powered state; and,

in response to the wireless receiver receiving a wireless signal from the remote control while the wireless receiver is in its powered state, ceasing to switch the wireless receiver to its unpowered state.

29. **(Original)** The method of Claim 28, further comprising keeping the wireless receiver in its powered state between about 2-20% of the time of the cycle.

30. **(Original)** The method of Claim 29, further comprising keeping the wireless receiver in its powered state between about 3-10% of the time of the cycle.

31. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 28, further comprising:
keeping an electronic logic unit in an unpowered state, the electronic logic unit configured to receive command signals from the wireless receiver and process said signals to control at least one of the motor and the valve;

in response to the wireless receiver receiving a wireless signal, switching the logic unit to a powered state.

32. **(Original)** The method of Claim 28, further comprising:
transmitting wireless command signals from a remote location to the wireless receiver, each signal being transmitted for a duration at least as long as a set time period;
and

keeping the wireless receiver in its unpowered state for no more than said set time period during each cycle.

33. **(Previously presented)** A power saving valve controller system comprising:
a flow controller comprising an inlet, an outlet, a fluid flow path defined between the inlet and outlet, and an electrically actuated valve positioned to selectively close the fluid flow path;

electronic components in communication with said flow controller, the electronic components comprising:

a wireless receiver configured to receive wireless command signals from a remote control for controlling the valve; and

a power control unit configured to repeatedly switch the wireless receiver between powered and unpowered states in a cycle; and

a remote control configured to send wireless command signals to the wireless receiver for controlling the valve.

34. **(Original)** The power saving valve controller of Claim 33, further comprising an electronic logic unit configured to process said signals, wherein the power control unit is configured to keep the electronic logic unit in an unpowered state until the wireless receiver receives a wireless command signal, the power control unit configured to switch the electronic logic unit to a powered state after the receiver receives the wireless command signal.

35. **(Original)** A power saving valve controller comprising:

a flow controller comprising an inlet, an outlet, a fluid flow path defined between the inlet and outlet, and an electrically actuated valve positioned to selectively close the fluid flow path; and

electronic components in communication with said flow controller, the electronic components comprising:

a wireless receiver configured to receive wireless command signals for controlling the valve; and

a power control unit configured to reduce power consumption by applying an initial voltage to initiate movement of the valve and reducing the voltage to the valve after the valve begins moving but before movement of the valve is intended to stop.

36. **(Previously presented)** A method of reducing the power consumed by a flow controller, said method comprising:

repeatedly switching on and off a receiver configured to receive wireless command signals from a remote control for controlling an electrically actuated valve of the flow controller; and

in response to the receiver receiving a wireless command signal from the remote control, keeping the receiver on to allow the receiver to transmit the command signal to the electrically actuated valve.

37. **(Previously presented)** A method of reducing the power consumed by a flow controller, said method comprising:

keeping an electronic logic unit in an unpowered state until a detection unit detects a wireless signal from a remote control, the electronic logic unit configured to receive the signal from the detection unit and process said signal to control a valve in the flow controller; and

powering the electronic logic unit when the detection unit detects the wireless signal.

38. **(Previously presented)** A method of reducing the power consumption of a system for controlling fluid flow in a hose system and a motor driving rotation of a reel for spooling a hose of the hose system, said method comprising:

applying an initial voltage to initiate movement of a mechanical device; and

reducing said initial voltage after the mechanical device begins moving but before the mechanical device is instructed to stop moving.

39. **(Original)** The method of Claim 38, wherein the mechanical device is a valve positioned to selectively close a fluid flow path through the hose system.

40. **(Original)** The method of Claim 38, wherein the mechanical device is the motor driving rotation of the reel.

41. **(Previously presented)** The hose control system of Claim 1, wherein the rotatable reel comprises a cylindrical drum.